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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
(Case No. 99-372-A)

PATENT

Application of: Welcher et al.)
)
Serial No.: 09/724,860)
)
Filed: November 28, 2000)
)
For: Interferon-like Molecules)
and Uses Thereof)

Before the Examiner: J. Andres
Group Art Unit: 1646

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Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Madam:

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION MAILED AUGUST 24, 2001

Responsive to the Office Action, mailed August 24, 2001, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the above-identified application in view of the following amendments and remarks.

AMENDMENTS

The Examiner is respectfully requested to enter the following amendments.

In the Specification:

Please insert the following paragraph at page 1, line 3:

A1

This application claims the benefit of priority from U.S. Provisional Patent Application No. 60/169,720, filed on December 8, 1999, the disclosure of which is explicitly incorporated by reference herein.

In the Claims:

Please amend the following claims:

1. (Amended) An isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising:

Handwritten signature/initials.

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